

Watermelon League Champions Receive Reward



The Mohawks, Class A Champions of the Birmingham recreation commission watermelon league, eagerly group around Captain Mike Groves as he cuts into his team's share of watermelon.

The league finished play for the season last Thursday as the league all stars defeated the Mohawks 2-0 in a well-played game. Following the tilt, watermelon was distributed and medals presented for individual achievement.

Shown above from left to right are Gordon Campbell, Jerry Wedge, Pete Landino, Jack Coleman, George Stinnett, Jim Sergeon, Tom Beck, Groves and Jerry Beck. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

Eight Lettermen Back For Baldwin Football Squad

Prospect for a successful football season for Birmingham high school are "no worse or better than usual" but depend on the attitude and desire of the team as a whole, according to Coach Vincent Secotine.

Eight lettermen will return from last year's squad which won five games, lost three and tied one. Seventeen letter winners were lost by graduation.

Returning lettermen who will be on hand when practice sessions begin Aug. 28 are Captain Gordon Shira, fullback; John Donnelly and John Burton, guards; George Bosworth and Gerry Tewillager, tackles; Art Fairbanks and Don Davis, ends; Ed Harris and Bud Krause.

Among the other candidates who are being counted upon are Bill Doudle, Max Joslyn, Charles Wood, John Schofield, Andy Dennison, Stu Scheffle, Russ Sanders, Chuck Tyson, John Silvertorn, Skip Hogue, Roger Rummel, Jim Neumann, Dick Crowley, Ed Harris and Bud Krause.

Secotine emphasized that each position on this year's squad is "wide open." Captain Shira is being shifted from his former position of center to fullback. Last year he showed promise becoming a good ground-gainer whenever he had the opportunity to carry the ball.

SECOTINE SAID team candidates should be class advisers, such as kicking, pass catching, running and passing should practice up on them this month before practice starts.

Pontiac Man Does Favor For Friend, Draws \$60 Fine

Friendship sometimes can be costly. This was emphasized in Bloomfield Hills justice court this week as Dennis McNeely of Pontiac was fined for reckless driving and Randolph Currington also of Pontiac, fined for permitting an unlicensed driver to operate his car.

Currington told police he wanted someone to drive his brother to Saginaw so he loaned his car and driver's license to McNeely who didn't have a license.

Plans went astray Tuesday when McNeely was arrested by Hills police for cutting traffic at a high rate of speed. At that time, police said he told them the car and license were his.

This week Currington was fined \$25 for permitting his car to be driven by an unlicensed person and McNeely took a \$60 fine in preference to 25 days in jail for reckless driving.

FBI Agents Arrest AWOL from Ft. Lee

Arthur W. Sanford, 18, of 86 West Vanderpool Fry township, was arrested last Friday by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Detective Sgt. William Green of the Birmingham office.

Sanford was reported to have deserted from Fort Lee, Va., by FBI officials on March 3, 1950. FBI agents said he was arrested at his home and that he had been working in the area as a carpenter since last spring.

Aug. 28 Hearing Set Concerning Dwelling Densities

Zoning ordinance provisions governing density of multiple dwellings units here are to be made more restrictive to prevent seriously overcrowded housing conditions, it was indicated Monday night as the city commission set August 28 for a public hearing on amendments to the ordinance. Commissioners indicated they were in agreement with a city plan commission recommendation for the upgrading of the requirements.

The plan commission points out that present city regulations would permit multiple dwellings here that would house more people per acre than the New York slum areas.

THE HEARING WILL concern boosting of minimum requirements for income bungalows from 2,400 to 3,000 sq. ft. of lot area per family, terrace units from 2,000 to 3,000 sq. ft., and multiple dwellings from 500 to 3,000 sq. ft.

"The city is buying itself a big legal headache if it tries to put through these new requirements," declared Allan E. Schmier, attorney for the Lincoln Construction Co. of Detroit which plans to build new terrace units for 40 families on both sides of Yosemite and on the north side of Villa, between Columbia and Eton.

"Such requirements must be reasonable and the commission cannot legislate on the occupancy of an acre, as I interpret the law," he pointed out.

Service Will Honor Dead of World War II

Notables to Speak At Second Annual Observance Sunday

Gov. G. Mennen Williams will be among the speakers when the Gold Star Mothers and Gold Star Wives hold their second annual Victory Day service Sunday afternoon in White Chapel Memorial cemetery.

The program will be held at 3 o'clock around the World War Veterans Memorial where more than 300 veterans of World War II are buried.

Maj. Gen. Stanley E. Reinhart of Birmingham and Brig. Gen. Bon Fellers will also speak. Gen. Reinhart, a graduate of West Point Military Academy, is a veteran of both World Wars and the holder of many decorations. During World War II he served with Gen. Patton's Third Army across Germany and Austria.

GEN. FELLERS served in the African and Pacific campaigns and was on the staff of Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Australia for three years.

He set up the civil affairs division for the Philippines liberation and in addition was psychological warfare officer against Japan, for which he was awarded the Oak Leaf cluster to the Distinguished Service medal.

Gen. Fellers, during the Philippine war, was personal combat observer at the front for MacArthur and secretary general to the Allied Council for Japan. The service will attend the service include the Hon. W. C. Storey, British consul-general in Hon. James Hurley, Canadian consul-general, Mayor Albert E. Carlo, Detroit; Col. Walter McGregor, commanding officer and the famous Essex Scottish Regiment pipe band members of the regiment.

MEMBERS OF THE American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and other auxiliaries will also be represented. The entire service will be broadcast from 7 to 8 o'clock over WWJ-AM and FM.

Locate With Navy In Korean Campaign

GREAT LAKES, ILL.—Clarence H. Moxley, seaman, USN, of 1825 17 Mile, was called up as a crew member of a naval aircraft carrier, the USS Intrepid, to fight against Korean Communist forces. The U. S. aircraft planes of the Navy have flown in the air on numerous strikes, inflicting great damage by use of rockets, bombs and incendiary projectiles against enemy ground and air installations.

Air Force Officer Reports for Duty

Lieut. Carl Wahlsten, 1143 Smith street, the first Birmingham reserve officer called for active duty, left Tuesday for Scott Air Force base at Belleville, Ill., for re-assignment.

Lieut. Wahlsten received his commission at Miami Beach, Fla., and served as classification and personnel officer during World War II.

Storage Building In Bloomfield Township Destroyed by Fire

A large storage and maintenance building on the William Periard estate at 2171 Kilgore street, Bloomfield township, was destroyed by fire about 8 a.m. Monday.

By the time township firemen arrived, the fire was too far advanced to be contained. The equipment stored in the building was valued at several thousand dollars. Also being damaged were electrical wires and poles around the building.

Chief Quartermaster Gordon Howard, a nearby resident, discovered the blaze as he was leaving for work.

Third on the list of 19 charter members is "Miss Martha Baldwin." In August, 1874, the society reorganized under state law. Sometime freely, if not busily, she bought the old Methodist church building which stood behind the site of the present Cunningham drug store stands.

The group was becoming increasingly important as the years elapsed and in 1891 the ladies bought a lot on the Southeast corner of Woodward and Maple where the present Cunningham drug store stands. They announced plans to build a large, modern brick library on the site. This was met with loud boos from the area farmers, who either in the rib at the prospect of the village ladies doing construction work.

THE TOWNSPEOPLE contributed many of the bricks, but the ladies themselves did most of the work. An article in The Eccentric of that day expressed the editor's opinion freely, if not busily: "The Ladies' Library Society are pulling this large and beautiful hall to a rapid completion. One thing that the ladies are particularly proud of is the fact that they have built their library on loans" (See PARK, Page 3)

"It's Up To You, Now"

Maple Bridge May Be in Use Next Summer

Approach Plans Are Now Complete, City Engineer Says

The West Maple Bridge should be in operation early next summer.

City Engineer L. R. Gare indicated this Tuesday while discussing the status of the four-lane bridge over the Rouge River.

"Plans are complete for the bridge approaches," Gare stated, "and we are now preparing cost estimates."

"These will be sent to the city commission as soon as possible," he said.

Gare said there is still some right-of-way property to obtain, but felt that this would not give any trouble.

The bridge itself is complete except for some filling at each end, involving what Gare estimated at half a day's work.

He predicted the following work would be done by winter: 1. The remainder of the right-of-way would be purchased. 2. Approaches will be done (estimated at 15-18%). 3. Grading will be completed. 4. The filling will be finished.

"I don't anticipate any paving yet," Gare said, "because we let the cold weather compact the approach and then try to get the project out of the way as soon as possible next year—probably by next summer."

Another city project connected with the bridge is No. 131, Maple bridge in a low area north of the new bridge.

"This will be done as we go along," Gare claimed, "as soon as we get any dirt from other projects, we'll dump it in the low spot, which will be worked with the rest of the job."

A total of 44 projects was listed in a memorandum submitted to City Manager Donald C. Egbert by Gare. It gave a full account of the work done by his department from April through June.

The report was handed out to city commissioners for their consideration at Monday night's commission meeting.

Six of the 44 projects were listed as completed.

Work on the new bridge was not completed by Tuesday morning revealed that 16 others were completed in July and possibly will be finished by the end of this week.

Gare said that no summary of total work for the summer had been made as yet and he could not tell whether or not any more of the engineering department had been set this year.

He did say, however, that his department "seemed exceptionally busy this year."

On a list of 44 projects in the last month were: 1. Henrietta—14 Mile road to subdivision line, asphaltic concrete. 2. Holland asphaltic surfacing—Torry to Eton. 3. Holland asphaltic surfacing—Adams to Torry. 4. Cole asphaltic surfacing. 5. Webster street improvement—Torry street facing. 6. Grant (Grant to Woodward) asphaltic concrete. 7. Hennepin Hill—Cummings street facing. 8. Cole street improvement—Torry to Torry, asphaltic surfacing. 9. Cole street improvement—Torry to Torry, asphaltic surfacing. 10. Grant (north) street improvement, asphaltic surfacing. 11. East Maple—Yankee—Dixie water main, construction completed on all three. The Yankee main still has to undergo chlorination. 12. Pembroke park development, rough grading has been completed. Just dragging and seeding needed for fall. 13. St. James park development, chlorination. 14. Henrietta—Asphaltic Concrete (North—Ad) #266, Church street from 11th street north of north property line of Southland to Northland. (See BRIDGE, Page 2)

Richard H. Dewey Heads New Ground Observers Post Here

The Birmingham ground observers station for the Aircraft Warning Service, a part of the United States Civilian Defense program, will be in charge of Richard H. Dewey, 219 North Woodward.

Fred S. Galloway, assistant service officer for the Oakland county council of civilian defense, will head this branch of civilian defense by Gov. G. Mennen Williams on Monday.

Galloway said yesterday that Dewey and the 12 other station supervisors for the county would begin work on Tuesday. He said an effective civilian volunteer personnel to man the station during operational exercises as prescribed by the United States Air Force.

The Aircraft Warning Service, Galloway explained, is designed to function as part of the Air Force's air defense system. It is composed of civilian volunteers who are organized as station units under the administrative supervision of state directors of civilian defense.

The station is integrated operationally into the Air Force's control and

Fortunate, indeed, is the wedded pair whose union, after 40 years of living together, continues the romantic role of courtship. Good news for the wedded pair is: loved, only love buildeth a happy household!

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Keep Government Clean

At a recent meeting of Michigan's prosecuting attorneys, all but three of them from 83 counties voted to restore Michigan's one-man grand jury law to the books.

These men know, in their fight against crime, the value of the one-man grand jury system that helped clean up crooks in and out of public office, both in Detroit and in Lansing.

If you want the maximum in clean and honest government in Michigan, tell your Lansing legislator you want him to bring back the one-man grand jury law.

Good Citizen

In the passing, last week, of John Meke, local business man, Birmingham lost a splendid citizen.

Mr. Meke, who once served as a motorman on the old Detroit United Railway, running between Pontiac and Farmington, acquired a competence in his local gasoline service stations many years ago. He worked hard, acquired a competence, raised a notable quartet of children, and came to participate in much of Birmingham's civic life.

You could always depend upon the forthright honesty of John. He made many friends who will miss his smiling personality.

One of many proofs of John's friendliness was his assistance in a story told me several days ago by a local cop: "Some young fellow named Meke came to ride me over a business expansion."

"IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE, at the time, to get the money from a bank. John Meke heard about it and he offered to endorse my note. I paid it off in due time and I came to know that John's Christian service means by this act of John Meke."

Fumbling

Secretary of State Dean Acheson recently revealed his thinking in his own words about the policies of his office.

To put it briefly, the stripped-down Acheson strategy for the five years we have walked a tight-rope, in that area—an under-financed, under-armed effort to block Communist infiltration, and its wounding of the American mind.

Mr. Acheson thus holds a post-mortem on the ineptitude, the appalling attitude of himself and President Truman, the inability and/or unwillingness of our military to defend itself against the ever-increasing dangers coming from the Far-East; dangers which he has called "the greatest danger to our nation since our march against human freedom."

Regardless of Mr. Acheson's explanation and alibi, the people of the United States have lost faith in his competency. He ought to resign, "for the good of the country."

(LATER ON, he can write a book, and make himself wealthier than he is by selling it.)

President Truman is an ordinary guy, himself unfitted for the tremendous job that is his, depends heavily on his close advisers, one of whom is Secretary Acheson.

Then, they have fumbled the Far-Eastern field, with the result that our nation again changes into what may be the Third World War.

Going the rounds these days is a charge of "stealing" that sums up what a lot of Americans are thinking.

It is not hard to find an American of another, "that our country" (See THIS & THAT, Page 2)

Use for "Municipal Purposes" Is the Only Restriction Placed on City's Civic Park

By AL SELBY

A petition protesting a proposal to convert the Birmingham city park into an off-street parking lot is expected to be presented soon to the city commission.

Distributors of this petition have encountered what they call "many make-an-idea" on the legal use of the land between the municipal building and Baldwin public library.

According to election notices posted for the vote on the bond issue which financed the purchase of the land, the two blocks where the city hall and city park now stand are restricted only to "municipal uses."

Charles J. Shain, Birmingham village president at the time of this election, told this reporter he was afraid the city officials "had been a little too cagey" when they acquired the land.

"We didn't know exactly what the final use of this property should be," he said. "But we felt the land could definitely be used for some municipal purpose."

BUT LET'S GO back further than the '26 election. In the little village of Birmingham, there had been a little of civic-minded women formed a society to wrap bandages.

When the war ended, these women looked around for some civic project to devote their energies to.

They decided on a literary club which they called "the Ladies' Library Association."

The group's history is recorded in the birth and death pages of a large hand-tooled Bible now loaned up on them this month before practice starts.

It is not clear who the Bible originally belonged to. It might have been the Baldwin family. Or perhaps it was one of the first

books the Library association bought.

BUT UNDER "Births" is the following notation: "Born at the home of Mrs. ..."

875 More Persons Protest Use of Park for Parking

Containing the names of 875 local residents, petitions, protesting use of the city park for parking were presented to the city commission Monday evening.

The petitions stated: "We, the undersigned citizens of Birmingham, protest against the suggestion that the civic center park be made into an off-street parking space."

"We consider the park one of the charms of Birmingham, and an irreplaceable asset to our city."

Commissioners referred the petition to the city plan commission.

Edwin Baldwin, Birmingham, Mich., Nov. 1882. The Ladies' Library Association."



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Inside The Eccentric

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